

# International Accreditation New Zealand

## Medical Testing Guidelines and Standards

Two of the fundamental purposes of laboratory accreditation are to foster continuous improvement and to promote best practice. Thus, standards, guidelines and expectations will constantly change, perhaps every time someone publishes a paper in one of the many relevant professional journals.

It will never be possible, therefore, to issue a definitive list of guidelines and criteria, and the onus is on laboratory staff to keep up with quality and technical advances in their field. An added value from the IANZ assessment process is that it provides an environment for the dissemination of quality initiatives and technical improvements from a huge range of sources, including the assessors themselves.

Having said that, one of the commonest questions we receive is “What guidelines and standards do you use?”. The following lists some of the standards and guidelines we commonly refer to. The list can be expected to grow and we will attempt to update it regularly.

1. ANZSBT *Guidelines for Blood Grouping and Antibody Screening in the Antenatal and Perinatal Setting*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed (2007)
2. ANZSBT *Guidelines for Pretransfusion Testing*, 5<sup>th</sup> Ed (2007)
3. AS/NZS 2243:2005 *Safety in Laboratories*
4. AS/NZS 3760:2003 *In-service safety inspection and testing of electrical equipment*
5. AS/NZS 4308:2008 *Procedures for the collection, detection and quantitation of drugs of abuse in urine*
6. ASM: *Guidelines for Assuring Quality of Medical Microbiological Culture Media*
7. European Federation for Immunogenetics: *Standards for Histocompatibility Testing*, version 5.5
8. Guidelines for Tuberculosis Control in New Zealand 2003, Chapter 12: *Mycobacteriology: Laboratory Methods and Standards*
9. Health (Retention of Health Information) Regulations 1996; SR 1996/343
10. ISO 15190:2003 *Medical Laboratories – Requirements for Safety*
11. ISO 22870:2006 *Point of Care testing- Requirements of Quality and Competence*
12. MAF/ERMA *Facilities for Microorganisms and Cell Cultures* (2007)
13. National Cervical Screening Programme: *Interim MOH Operational Policy and Quality Standards Manual* (2000)
14. New Zealand National Coronial Pathology Service: *Code of Practice and Performance Standards for Forensic and Coronial pathologists* (2006)
15. Nordic Semen Analysis Manual (2002)
16. NPAAC: *Classification of Human Genetic Testing: A Supplementary Guide to Laboratory Accreditation Standards and Guidelines for Nucleic Acid Detection and Analysis* (2007)
17. NPAAC: *Guidelines for Approved Pathology Collection Centres* (2006)

18. NPAAC: *Guidelines for the Facilities and Operation of Hospital and Forensic Mortuaries* (2004)
19. NPAAC: *Guidelines for the Performance of Pathology Surgical Cut-Up* (2006)
20. NPAAC: *Laboratory Accreditation Standards and Guidelines for Nucleic Acid Detection and Analysis* (2007)
21. NPAAC: *Requirements for Cytogenetic Testing* (2007)
22. NPAAC: *Retention of Laboratory Records and Diagnostic Material*; Third Ed (2007)
23. NZBS Refrigeration Guidelines, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed (2005)
24. NZS 4304:2002: *Management of Healthcare Waste*, 4.1
25. NZS 8153:2002 *Health Records*
26. NZS/ISO 15189:2007 *Medical Laboratories – Particular Requirements for Quality and Competence*
27. OSH/Department of Labour: *Managing Health and Safety Risks in New Zealand Mortuaries, Guidelines to promote safe working conditions* (2000)
28. RCPA: *Guidelines on Autopsy Practice* (2002).

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